

The Humble
DESIRE
And
PROPOSITIONS
Of the
LORDS and COMMONS
Assembled in PARLIAMENT.

Presented to the KING's most Excellent Majesty at Oxford, by foure Lords, and eight Members of the House of Commons;

February 1. 1642.

With His
MAJESTIES ANSWER
thereunto, and six Propositions propounded by him to both Houses, to be debated upon, with the rest, at the Treaty.

Die Martis. 7 Feb. 1642.

O Rdered by the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament, that these Desires, with His Majesties Answer, be forthwith Printed and Published.

J. Browne, Cler. Parliament.

Feb. 7. Printed for John Wright in the Old-Bailey. 1642.

The humble Desires of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament, To the Kings most Excellent Majesty,

WEE your Majesties most humble and Faithfull Subjects, The Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled, having in our thoughts the glory of God, your Majesties Honour, and the prosperitie of your people, and being most grievously afflicted with the pressing miseries, and calamities, which have overwhelmed your two Kingdomes of England and Ireland, since your Majesty hath by the perswasion of evil Counsellors, withdraine your selfe from the Parliament, raised an Army against it, and by force thereof protected Delinquents from the Justice of it, constreining us to take Armes for the defence of our Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges of Parliament, and for the sitting of the Parliament in safety, which feares and dangers are continued and increased by the raising, drawing together, and Arming of great numbers of Papists under the command of the Earle of Newcastle, likewise by making the Lord Herbert of Ragland, and other knowne Papists Commanders of great Forces, whereby many grievous oppressions, Rapines and Cruelties have bene and are daily exercised upon the persons and Estates of your people, much innocent blood hath bin spilt, and the Papists have obtained meares of attempting with hopes of effecting, their Mischievous designe of rooting out the reformed Religion, and destroying the proficitors thereof.

In tender sense and compassion of these evils under which your people and Kingdomes lye (according to the duty which we owe to God, your Majesty, and the Kingdomes, for which we are trusted) we most earnestly desire, that an end may be put to these great distempers and distractions, for the prevention of that desolation which doth threaten all your Majesties Dominions; and as we have rendered, and still are ready to render, to your Majesty that subjection, obedience, and service which we owe unto you, so we most humbly beseech your Majesty to remove the causes of this illare, and to vouchsafe us that peace and protection which we and our Ancestors have formerly enjoyed under your Majesty and Royal Predecessors, and graciously to accept and grant these our most humble desires and Propositions.

I. That

1 **T**hat your Majesty will be pleased to disband your Armies, as was likewise shall be ready to disband all those Forces which we have raised, and that you will be pleased to returne to your Parliament.

2 That you will leave Delinquents to a legall tryall and judgement of Parliament.

3 That the Papists may not onely be disbanded, but disarmed according to Law.

4 That your Majesty will be pleased to give your Royall Assent unto the Bill for taking away Superstitious Innovations; to the Bill for the utter abolishing and taking away of all Archbishops, Bishops, their Chancellors and Commissaries, Deanes, Sub-deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Archdeacons, Cannons and Prebendaries, and all Chantors, Chancellors, Treasurers, Sub-Treasurers, Sincensors and Sacristis, and all Vicars Choral and Choristers, old Vicars and new Vicars, of any Cathedral or Collegiate Church, and all other their under Officers, out of the Church of England; to the Bill against Scandalous Ministers; to the Bill against Pluralities; and to the Bill for consultation to be had with Godly, Religious, and Learned Divines: That your Majesty will be pleased to promise to passe such other good Bills for settling of Church Government, as upon Consultation with the Assembly of the said Divines shall be resolved on by both Houses of Parliament, and by them be presented to your Majesty.

5 That your Majesty having exprest in your Answer to the Nineteene Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, a hearty affection and intention for the rooting out of Popery out of this Kingdome, and that if both the Houses of Parliament can yet find a more effectuell course to disable Jesuits, Priests, and Popish Recusants, from disturbing the State, or deluding the Lawes, that you would willingly give your consent unto it.

That you would be graciously pleased for the better discovery and speedier conviction of Recusants, that an Oath may be established by Act of Parliament, to be administred in such manner as by both Houses shall be agreed on, wherein they shall abjure and renounce the Popes Supremacy, the Doctrine of Transubstantiation, Purgatory, worshipping of the Consecrated Host, Crucifixes and Images; And the refusing of the said Oath, being Tendered in such manner as shall be appoynted by Act of Parliament, shall be a sufficient conviction in Law of Recusancie.

And that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to give your Royall Assent unto a Bill for the Education of the Children of Papists, by Protestants, in the Protestant Religion.

That for the more effectuell Execution of the Lawes against Popish Recusants, your Majesty will be pleased to consent to a Bill for the true

Levying of the Penalties against them, and that the same penalties may be levied and dispensed off in such manner as both Houses of Parliament shall agree on, so as your Majesty be at no losse: And likewise to a Bill whereby the practise of Papists against the State may be prevented, and the Lawes against them duly executed.

6 That the Earle of *Bristol* may be removed from your Majesties Councils, and that both he and the Lord *Herbert*, Eldest sonne to the Earle of *Worcester*, may likewise be restrained from coming within the Verge of the Court, and that they may not beare any Office, or have any employment concerning the State or Common Wealth.

7 That your Majesty will be graciously pleased by Act of Parliament, to settle the *Militia* both by Sea and Land, and for the Forts and Ports of the Kingdome in such a manner as shall be agreed on by both Houses.

8 That your Majesty will be pleased by your Letters Patents, to make Sir *John Brampton* Chief Justice of your Court of Kings Bench, *William Lenthall* Esquire, the now Speaker of the Commons House, Master of the Roles, and to continue the Lord Chief Justice *Banks*, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and likewise to make Master *Serjeant Wild* Chief Baron of your Court of the Exchequer, and that Master Justice *Bacon* may be continued, and Master *Serjeant Roles* and Master *Serjeant Atkins* made Justices of the Kings Bench.

That Master Justice *Reeves* and Master Justice *Foster* may be continued, and Master *Serjeant Pbesant* made one of the Justices of your Court of Common Pleas.

That Master *Serjeant Creswell*, Master *Samuel Browne*, and Master *John Puleston* may be Barons of the Exchequer, and that all these, and all the Judges of the same Courts for the time to come, may hold their place by Letters patents under the Great Seal, *Quam diu se bene gesserint*, and that the severall persons not before named, that doe hold any of these places before mentioned, may be removed.

9 That all such persons as have beene put out of the Commissions of peace, or of Oyer and Terminer, or from being *Castodes Regulorum*, since the first day of April 1642. (other then such as were put out by the desire of both or either of the Houses of Parliament) may againe be put into those Commissions and Offices, and that such persons may be put out of those Commissions and Offices, as shall be excepted against by both Houses of Parliament.

10 That your Majesty will be pleased to passe the Bill now presented to your Majesty to Vindicate and secure the priviledges of Parliament from the ill Consequence of the late president in the charge and proceedings against the Lord *Kimbolton* now Earle of *Manchester*, and the five Members of the House of Commons.

11 That

11 That your Majesties Royall Assent may be given unto such Acts, as shall be advised by both Houses of Parliament, for the satisfying and paying the Debts, and Damages, wherein the two Houses of parliament have engaged the publique Faith of the Kingdome.

12 That your Maj. sty will be pleased according to a gracious Answer heretofore receiv'd from you, to enter into a more strict Alliance with the States of the United Provinces, and other Neighbour Princes and States of the protestant Religion, for the defence & maintenance thereof against all Designs and Attempts of the Popish and Jesuiticall Faction to subvert and suppress it, whereby your Subjects may hope to be free from the Mischiefes which this Kingdome hath endured, through the power which some of that party have had in your Councell, and will be much encouraged in a Parliamentary way, for your Ayd and Assistance in restoring your Royall Sister and the Prince Elector to those Dignities and Dominions which belong unto them, and the relieving the other distressed protestant princes, who have suffered in the same Cause.

13 That in the Generall pardon that your Majesty hath beene pleased to offer to your Subjects, all offences and misdemeanors, committed before the tenth of *January, 1641.* which have bin or shall be questioned or proceeded against in parliament, upon complaint in the House of Commons, before the tenth of *January, 1643.* shall be excepted, which offences and misdemeanors shall nevertheless be taken and adjudged to be fully discharged against all other Inferiour Courts; That likewise there shall be an exception of all offences committed by any person or persons which hath or have had any hand or practise in the Rebellion of *Ireland*, which hath or have given any Counsell, Assistance, or Encouragement to the Rebels there, for the maintenance of that Rebellion, as likewise an exception of *William Earle of Newcastle*, and *George Lord Digby*.

14 That your Majesty will be pleased to restore such Members of either House of parliament to their severall places of Service and employment, out of which they have been put since the beginning of this parliament; That they may receive satisfaction and reparation for those places, and for the profits which they have lost by such remoyall, upon the petition of both Houses of parliament. And that all others may be restored to their offices and employments, who have been put out of the same upon any displeasure conceived against them for any assistance given to both Houses of parliament, or obeying their Commands, or for bearing to leave their attendance upon the parliament without licence, or for any other occasion arising from these unhappy differences betwixt your Majesty and both Houses of parliament, upon the like petition of both Houses.

These things being granted and performed, as it hath alwayes bin our hearty pray-
er, so shall we be enabled to make it our hopefull endeavour, that your Majesty and
your people may enjoy the blessings of peace, truth, and iustice, the Royalty and great-
ness of your Throne may be supported by the Loyall and boundfull affections of
your people, their Liberties, and priviledges maintained by your Majesties pro-
tection and Justice, and this publique honour and happinesse of your Majesty, and
all your Dominions, communicated to other Churches and States of your alliance, &
derived to your Royall posterity, and the future generations in this Kingdome for
ever.



His Maiesties Answer to the Desires.

If his Majesty had not given up all the faculties of his soul
to an earnest endeavour of a Peace and Reconciliation
with his People, or if he would suffer himselfe by any prob-
cation to be drawne to a sharpnesse of Language at a time
when there seemes somewhat like an Overture of Accommo-
dation, he could not but resent the heavy charges upon him in
the preamble of these Propositions, & would not suffer him-
selfe to be reproached with protecting of delinquents, by force
from Justice (his Majesties desire having alwayes bin, that
all men should be tryed by the knowne Law, and having bin
refused it) with raising an Army against his Parliament,
and to be told that Armes have bin taken up against him for
Defence of Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges of
Parliament, and for sitting of the Parliament in safety, with
many other particulars in that preamble, so often, and so ful-
ly intimated by his Majesty, without remembering the world
of the time and circumstances of raising these Armes against
him, when his Majesty was so far from being in a condition
to invade other mens Rights, that he was not able to main-
taine and defend his owne from violence, and without tel-
ling his good Subjects that their Religion (the true Prote-
stant Religion, in which his Majesty was borne, hath faith-
fully lived, and to which he will be a willing sacrifice) their
Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges, and safety of Parliament
were so simply settled and established, or offered to be so by his

Majesty, before any Army was raised against him, and long before any raised by him for his defence, that if nothing had bin desired but that Peace and protection which his Subjects and their Ancestors had in the best times enjoyed under his Majesty, or his Royal Predecessors, this mis-understanding and distance betwene his Majesty and his People, and this generall misery and distraction upon the face of the whole Kingdom, had not bin now the discourse of Christendome; but his Majesty will forbear any expressions of bitterness, or of a sence of his owne sufferings, that if it be possible, the memory thereof may be lost to the world, and therefore though many of the Propositions presented to his Majesty by both Houses, appeare to him very derogatory from, and destructive to his just Power and Prerogative, and no way beneficiall to his Subjects, few of them being already due to them by the Lawes established, (and how unparliamentary it is by armes to require new Lawes, all the World may judge) yet because these may be waived or mollified, and many that are now dark or doubtfull in them, cleared and explained (upon Debate) His Majesty is pleased (such is his sence of the miseries this Kingdome suffers by this unnaturall war, and his earnest desire to remove them by a happy Peace) That a speedy time and place bee agreed upon, for the meeting of such Persons as his Majesty and both Houses shall appoint, to discuss these Propositions, and such others here following, as his Majesty doth propose to them.

1. That his Majesties owne Revenue, Magazines, Townes, Forts and Ships, which have beene taken or kept from him by force, be forthwith restored unto him.

2. That whatsoever hath beene done or published contrary to the knowne Lawes of the Land, and derogatory to his Majesties legall and knowne Power and Rights, be renounced and recalled; That no seed may remaine for the like to spring out of for the future.

3. That whatsoever illegall Power hath beene claimed and exercised

exercised by or over his Subjects, as imprisoning their persons without Law, stopping their *Habeas Corpus*s, and imposing upon their Estates without Act of Parliament, &c. either by both or either House, or any Committee by both or either, or by any persons appointed by any of them be disclaimed, and all such persons so committed forthwith discharged.

4. That as his Majesty will readily consent (having done so heretofore) to the execution of all Lawes already made, and to any good Acts to be made for the suppressing of Popery, and for the firme settling of the Protestant Religion now established by Law: So he desires that a good Bill may be framed for the better preserving of the Booke of *Common Prayer* from the scorn and violence of *Brownists*, *Anabaptists* and other *Scismaticks*, with such clauses for the ease of tender Consciences as his Majesty hath formerly offered.

5. That all such Persons as upon the Treaty shall be excepted out of the generall Pardon, shall be tryed *per Pares*, according to the usuall course and known Law of the Land, and that it be left to that either to acquit or condemne them.

6. And to the intent this Treaty may not suffer interruption by any intervening Accidents, That a cessation of Armes, and a free Trade of all his Majesties Subjects be fully agreed upon.

This offer and desire of his Majesty he hopes will be so cheerfully entertained, that a speedy and blessed Peace may be accomplished, if it shall be rejected, or by insisting upon unreasonable Circumstances be made impossible (which he hopes God in his mercy to this Nation will not suffer) the gulf of the blood which will be shed, and the desolation which must follow, will lie upon the heads of the refusers.

However, his Majesty is resolved, through what accidents soever hee shall be compelled to recover his Right, and with what prosperous successes soever it shall please God to bless him, that by his earnest constant endeavours to propagate and promote the true Protestant Religion, and by his governing according to the known Lawes of the Land, and upholding the just Priviledges of Parliament, according to his frequent Protestations made before Almighty God, which he will always inviolably observe, the world shall see that he hath undergone all these difficulties and hazards for the defence and maintenance of these. The zealous preservation of which his Majesty well knows, is the onely foundation and meanes for the true happiness of him and his people.

FINIS.

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